AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 4, cancel claim 5, and add new claims 6-8, as listed in the following listing of the claims, which replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Original) A sound recording apparatus comprising:

a microphone input terminal having right and left signal channel terminals and a ground terminal;

a recording section which records, in a recording medium, right and left audio signals input from the microphone input terminal;

a microphone power supply section which supplies power to a microphone connected to the microphone input terminal via the right and left signal channel terminals and the ground terminal;

a detection section which detects whether or not a voltage of one of the right and left signal channel terminals is substantially equal to a ground voltage, and provides a detection result; and

a control section which controls a recording operation of the recording section in accordance with the detection result.

2.   (Original) The sound recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detection section comprises a comparator which compares the voltage of the right signal channel terminal with a predetermined threshold value, and an output voltage of the comparator is provided as the detection result.

3.   (Original) The sound recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when the detection result indicates that the voltage of the right signal channel terminal is substantially equal to that of the ground terminal, the control section controls the recording section so that only the left audio signal input from the left signal channel terminal is recorded.

4.   (Currently Amended) The sound recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording section has right and left sound recording channels, and when the detection result indicates that the voltage of the right signal channel terminal is substantially equal to that of the ground terminal, the control section controls the recording section so that the left audio signal input from the left signal channel terminal is recorded into the left in the right sound recording channel and into the right sound recording channel.

5.   (Canceled).

6.   (New) A sound recording apparatus comprising:

a microphone input terminal having right and left signal channel terminals and a ground terminal;

microphone amplifiers which amplify right and left audio signals input from the microphone input terminal;

an A/D converter which converts analog signals into digital signals;

a recording section which uses the A/D converter to convert right and left audio signals amplified by the microphone amplifiers into digital signals and records the digital signals in a recording medium;

a microphone power supply section which supplies power to a microphone connected to the microphone input terminal via the right and left signal channel terminals and the ground terminal;

a detection section which uses the A/D converter to convert a voltage of one of the right and left signal channel terminals into voltage data, compares the voltage data with the predetermined threshold value, thus detects whether or not the voltage of one of the terminals is substantially equal to a ground voltage, and provides a detection result; and

a control section which controls a recording operation of the recording section in accordance with the detection result.

7.   (New) The sound recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detection section detects whether or not the voltage of one of the terminals is equal to

the ground voltage every time a microphone plug is plugged into the microphone input terminal.

8.   (New) The sound recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the detection section detects whether or not the voltage of one of the terminals is equal to the ground voltage when power of the apparatus is turned on.